(b) whether any preference is given in view of economic-backwardness of the area and the prospective users being primarily poor dalit and adivasi women;

(c) whether any proposal for construction of such a working women's hostel at Yavatmal is pending consideration since August, 2004; and

(d) if so, whether expeditious decision would be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) No specific time-frame for sanctioning of new proposals has been envisaged in the said scheme (details of which can be accessed on the website of Ministry of Women and Child Development -*http://www.wcd.nic.in*). Approval of the proposal is as per schematic norms and requirements.

(b) According to the scheme, preference will be given to hostels proposed in (a) small towns (b) bigger towns/cities with no hostels sanctioned by the Ministry. 15% & 7.5% seats in each hostel are reserved for members of Scheduled Caste & Scheduled Tribe respectively.

(c) and (d) The proposal was initially received in the Ministry in March, 2005 and the revised proposal in February, 2006. The proposal will be considered by the Project Sanctioning Committee in its next meeting.

Power Generation

*146. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the total power generated in the country during this year, till the 31st October, 2007, in Central, State and private sectors, separately, vis-a-vis the stipulations thereof in each case;

(b) the reasons fro short-fall in case that exceeds five per cent of the stipulation; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to further augment generation of power in the country this year?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) The total power generated in the country during the current financial year (April-October, 2007) was 409.8 Billion Units (BU) which is 99.6% of the target. The total target for the entire year (2007-08) is fixed at 710 BU. The sector wise details with regard to the generation for the period April to October, 2007 are given below:—

Sector	Target (BU)	Actual Generation (BU)	Achievement (%)
Central	174.6	176.2	100.9
State	197.0	192.6	97.8
Private	34.9	36.6	104.7
ALL INDIA * TOTAL	411.5	409.8	99.6

*Includes import of power from Bhutan which was 4.4 BU against the target of 4.9BU.

(b) Does not arise in view of the above.

(c) The following steps have been taken/are being taken to augment power generation in the country:—

(i) Enhanced target of 710 BU for the year 2007-08 as against a target of 663 BU in 2006-07, marking a growth of 7.1%.

(ii) New generation capacity aggregating 12,039 MW is on track for commissioning during the year 2007-08, out of which, 4,590 MW has already been synchronized.

(iii) "Partnership in Excellence" Programme starting with adoption of better operation and maintenance (O&M) practices to enable enhancement of Plant Load Factor (PLF) of existing thermal power stations through tie-up with well performing power utilities as a pre-cusor to renovation and modernization.

(iv) Renovation, modernization and life extension of old and inefficient generation units.

(v) Harnessing surplus captive power into grid.

(vi) Strengthening of inter-state and inter-regional transmission capacity for optimum utilization of available power.

(vii) Monitoring of production, transportation and supply of coal to review and resolve the constraints.

UN assistance in eradication of illiteracy

*147. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in the year 2000, UN had promised India and some other countries to help them in eradication of illiteracy and for provision of education to all by 2015;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what is the progress made, so far as half the time has elapsed; and

(d) the steps being taken to accomplish the task by 2015?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b) The World Education Forum, coordinated by UNESCO, adopted the Dakar Framework for Action, Education for All (EFA) on 26-28 April, 2000. India is one of the 164 signatoreis to the Dakar Framework for Action, which committed itself to the attainment of the following six goals, including the goal on improvement in the rates of adult literacy.

(i) Expanding and improving comprehensive early childhood care and education, especially for the most vulnerable and disadvantaged children.

(ii) Ensuring that by 2015 all children, particularly girls, children in difficult circumstances and those belonging to ethnic minorities, have access to and complete free and compulsory primary education of good quality.

(iii) Ensuring that the learning needs of all young people and adults are met through equitable access to appropriate learning and life skills programmes.